STATE of WISCONSIN



WHEREAS; Liberace was born Władziu (Walter) Valentino Liberace on May 16, 1919 in West Allis, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; he was the third of four children of West Allis residents Salvatore "Sam" Liberace and Frances M. Zuchowski Liberace, who encouraged Liberace to have a strong work ethic and support him in the field of music and entertainment; and

WHEREAS; at age seven, he earned a rare scholarship to attend the Wisconsin College of Music in Milwaukee, and as a teenager he was a three-time piano concert winner of the coveted National Federation of Music Club competitions, and later performed all over the state of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; all during his career he supported the musically talented youth of Wisconsin with mentorship, creating the Liberace Foundation for the Performing & Creative Arts to provide scholarships to students around this country including those in Wisconsin for their studies at Marquette University, and at his alma mater, the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS; he will always be fondly remembered for his musical genius, affable personality and humor, generous philanthropy, his patriotism, the ever-present candelabra, and his unrivaled opulent performance ability that easily earned him the sobriquet of "Mr. Showmanship"; and

WHEREAS; Liberace, never forgetting his home state, pleased his audiences with "On Wisconsin," "Chopsticks," "The Beer Barrel Polka," and closed his award-winning television programs and concert shows with the sentimental favorite "I'll Be Seeing You," which truly exemplified his eternal wish to see his family & friends, and to always return to his beloved Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2019 as

LIBERACE APPRECIATION DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 13th day of May 2019.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State